

BUILDING ACTIVITY IN EASTERN CONNECTICUT

BUILDING OPERATIONS IN NEW ENGLAND.

The statistics of building operations in New England compiled by the F. W. Dodge company follow:

Contracts to Feb. 25, 1914.	\$22,955,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1913.	18,140,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1912.	18,044,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1911.	16,769,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1910.	17,844,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1909.	17,010,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1908.	7,009,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1907.	16,692,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1906.	13,383,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1905.	10,498,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1904.	8,543,000
Contracts to Feb. 25, 1903.	9,629,000

MIDDLETOWN.

Frank H. White is the general contractor for the addition and alterations to the block at 297 Main street, owned by H. H. Warner and James C. Fox. The improvements will include a two-story brick addition, about 30x35 feet, new store fronts and interior alterations to the present tenements.

W. E. Lydall, manager of the Eastern Straw Board Co. at Versailles, is making arrangements for the erection of a new residence in this city.

South Beach.—Many people from New York and elsewhere are to be seen every day, looking for houses for the summer. A number of places have been found, and the prospect for a busy season looks good.

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Thayer Block Reinforced Concrete

Work Started Placing the Steel and Cement May be Poured This Week—Alterations in Stores and Residences—Repairing Damage From Storm.

Wednesday the cement mixer to be used in the construction of the Thayer block on Franklin square arrived and is now being set up. The engine was tried out during the afternoon and pouring will be commenced this week. It is expected, as the first section of the forms is now practically ready for the first floor are now up and the remainder will be erected as soon as the pile driver completes its work.

Remodeling Main Street Store.
The store formerly occupied by John A. Moran and located at the corner of Main and Shetucket streets is being remodeled by Peck, McWilliams & company. When completed, the store is to be occupied by the Woolworth company in connection with their present quarters. A new steel ceiling will be put in and there is to be a new hardwood floor and a new plate glass front on Main street. There are to be two entrances, one on Main street and the other on Shetucket street. The entrance in the rear of the store on Shetucket street is to be bricked up and two overhead windows are to be cut in. The Main street show windows will be carried down to the floor and the corner window will be triangular in shape and will be cut off from the rest of the store and entirely glassed in for display purposes. The wall in the rear of the store will be removed, thus making both stores one. The entrances are to have tile flooring. A new cement floor will be laid in the cellar and shelving will be put up for storage purposes. New electric fixtures are to be installed. The work is to be completed by April 15. The Norwich Electric company will install the new electric fixtures and the plumbing will be done by Robert Corcoran. Henry Beausoleil is to have charge of the painting.

Repairing St. Patrick's Church.
Fenton & Charnley have a force of men at work making repairs to the roof and chimney of St. Patrick's church, which were damaged during the storm Sunday afternoon. It is expected that the work will be completed today (Thursday).

Changed to Two Tenements.
The remodeling of the house at 119 Sachem street is now about completed. The house has been made over from one to a two tenement residence and a new entrance has been built at the rear of the building. To gain access to the new entrance on the second floor a new wooden stairway has been erected. The lower tenement is occupied by James Leary and family and the upper tenement is occupied by Gracyn Strelitz, who owns the building.

Change in Store.
The alterations at the store of Alfred Chartier on Merchants avenue are well advanced. The store has been cut in two by the erection of a partition, one side to be conducted by Mr. Chartier as a grocery store and the other side is to be used as a meat market by Raymond Chartier. In the grocery store a new office has been built on the left of the entrance. At the present time a specious ice box is being built in the meat market. It has two windows in the front and the door is located on the side. It is expected that the ice box will be completed this week.

Repairing Whitmore Block.
W. T. Ryan has a force employed on the repairing of the north of the Whitmore block, corner of North Main and Sixth streets. During the wind storm Sunday a good part of the roof was torn off and one of the chimneys was demolished. The old roofing was so badly twisted and bent that it is necessary to replace it with new.

Changes at Tire Shop.
The alterations at the Baird Tire shop on Franklin street have been completed.

CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR CONNECTICUT INDUSTRIES.

Many Contracts Let and Others in Contemplation.

Industrial and other large building in Connecticut continues extensive in volume. The French Manufacturing company has awarded a contract for another factory building as an addition to its plant in Waterbury. This new structure will be two stories high, 40x110 feet, and built of brick. In Ansonia the foundations are being laid for the first half of the factory being added to the Ansonia brass and copper division plant of the American Brass company and construction work is to be pushed.

Tobacco warehouses are occupying a good deal of attention in Hartford. The American Cigar company is building a large warehouse on Windsor avenue. A five-story brick building, 80x140 feet in size, and the Hartford Cigar company is spending \$40,000 on a five-story brick and wood warehouse which will be 75x141 feet. Richard J. Devitt of Burnside is erecting two tobacco sheds on Spencer avenue, each 22x100 feet.

The Brown Cotton Gin company of New London has awarded a contract for a one-story brick addition to its foundry 48x22 feet. The old factory of the C. D. Boss & Co. company, which has been empty since the collapse of the Federal Biscuit company, has been purchased by the Shore Line Electric Railway company and is being remodeled into an extensive freight depot and storage warehouse where will be centralized its trolley freight business for the southern part of New London county.

The Naugatuck Malleable Iron company is about to add to its plant in Bridgeport a new tramping and stacking room. It will be of brick and steel construction. In Middletown the Mechanics Savings bank has just completed a fine banking house. Pratt, Reed & Co. are adding to their plant at Deep River a reinforced concrete factory structure 80x160 feet in size and four stories high, with a one story addition for boiler house. In New Britain the Skinner Chuck company is about to add a four-story brick building 60x154 feet in size to be erected on Church street.

The Connecticut Electric company in Bridgeport is adding a three-story brick factory building on Florence street, 50x150 feet. The new factory of the South Norwich Engineering company in Stamford will shortly be ready for occupancy. The First Bridgeport National bank is about to build a ten-story banking house and office building on Main street. In Stamford a \$40,000 central fire station is about to be built by the city. A new theatre to seat 1000 people is going up in Norwich.

The E. H. Hall & Sons company of North Windham will rebuild the plant recently burned. The Torrington Electric Light company is building a new sub station on Franklin street. The New Haven Gas Light company has awarded a contract for an addition to their central house of brick and steel construction.

completed. The front store has been increased in size by the removal of a partition in the rear. An office has been located in the newly acquired floor space of the store on the right and on the left of the entrance is the silent salesman and counter.

Notes.
Repairs are being made to the Marguerite building, which was recently damaged by fire.

The Shetucket company had a force of men at work Tuesday repairing the damage done to the roof of their storehouse by the gale Sunday afternoon. A large illuminated sign has been erected on the side of the Brooklyn Outfitters' building on Main street and is attracting a good deal of attention.

NEW LONDON.

Work Started On Alteration of The Boss Cracker Factory.

A force of laborers was put to work Wednesday morning at the former Boss cracker factory getting the place ready for the masons and builders who are to perform the alterations for the Shore Line Electric freight business. The work of clearing the two floors of the south building to be used by the trolley company will occupy but a few days, after which the builders will begin the alterations whereby a large and commodious terminal will result. The work will be completed and the building made ready for business within a few weeks.

Contract For House.
A. Lord has been awarded the contract for the erection of a new house at the corner of Montauk avenue and Sherman street for L. Q. Raymond. The plans call for a frame house, finished in hardwood and provided with furnace heat and every convenience.

To Finish in May.
It is believed that the municipal building, the structure will be ready for occupancy some time in May. He believes the June meeting of the court of common council will be held in the building. The architect states that the building is progressing rapidly and will be ready within a few days for the reception of the steel framework that is to be installed in each and every office. The location of the furniture will occupy but a comparatively short time and the odds and ends of work complete the structure should not demand a time later than May.

SOUTH MANCHESTER.

Plans Approved For New Schoolhouse To Cost \$50,000.

At a meeting of the Ninth School district this week, the plans for the eight room school building prepared by the Architect Farley of New York city were approved. It was decided to have the new building front on Cedar street. The working sketches will now be completed and the committee will receive estimates and award the contract. The building will be brick, with limestone trim and probably slate roof. The basement will contain the kindergarten, boiler rooms and two toilet rooms. The upper floors will have four rooms each, and each room will have a section in the corridor used for wardrobe purposes. The appropriation is \$50,000.

Contract For Four Houses.
Gustave Schreiber has been awarded the contract for four new houses to be erected on Cooper street, and a new street to be opened between High and Pleasant streets, for Cheney Bros. The houses will be of from construction and will be arranged for two and three families with all modern conveniences. Frank Farley of New York city is the architect.

Will Build New House.
Cheney Bros. will start work at once on the carpenter work for a new house for themselves on Cooper street. It will be arranged for two tenements and will be provided with all modern conveniences.

To Build Bungalow.
E. A. Lydall of the Lydall and Lydall Co. has purchased a building lot on Main street and will have a modern bungalow erected on the site.

To Build On Bessell Street.
Edward J. Holl has purchased a building lot and cellar for a four-room house on Bessell street, from Thomas J. Gorman and will erect a house on the site this spring.

The world's production of gold is estimated at \$490,000,000.

BUILDING AND BUSINESS.

Weather Conditions Have Important Effect Upon Construction Work.

The condition of real estate during the past two weeks has not been particularly conducive to activity in this market, as will be seen by the figures giving the number of sales and amount of mortgages for the past week. Total sales in the towns reported in The Commercial Record for the past week were 172, against 269 a year ago, with mortgage loans of \$467,665, as compared with \$768,568 last year.

The seven new incorporations in this State for the week compare with 9 last year, 11 in 1912, and 15 in 1911, while the authorized capital, \$470,000, is about the same as in previous years for the same week.

Seven bankruptcies of the week have average assets of \$2,379 and average liabilities of \$5,945. A year ago for the same week there were no petitions in bankruptcy filed, and in the year 1912 the record was very low.

Weather conditions are accurately reflected in the record of building permits granted in the leading cities of the State. During the week in New Haven, Bridgeport, Hartford, Waterbury and Stamford but 33 permits were granted for buildings, in local on which was \$34,061. This record compares with 65 in 1913 and 95 in 1912 for buildings costing \$177,855 and \$229,545, respectively.

Among the projects for which contracts have been let during the week are a fire residence in Middletown, one, two, three and six-family houses in New Haven and Hartford, business block in New Haven, and a school in Derby.

Plans are reported for a factory and foundry in Bridgeport, business block in New Haven, garages in Waterbury, Norwalk and Stamford, theater in New Haven, school in Bridgeport, and a four-story apartment building in New Haven and Hartford, four-family house in Bridgeport and 11 and 12-family houses in New Haven.

There were in Norwich last week five sales of real estate to eleven a year ago. There were mortgage loans of \$5,730 last week, but none last year.

For both weeks New London had six sales, the loans being \$9,260 last week to \$21,400 for the same week last year.

GROTON LONG POINT.

Many plans are on foot for the improvement of the point, the coming summer perhaps one of the most important being that of a post office, which, it is rumored, will be installed in the store built there last year. This will be a fairly central location. The mail in all probability come from Norwalk.

L. E. Daboll has been to Berlin to arrange a contract for the necessary steel work on the bridge, which will be built in connection with the new road to be cut through from the point to the bank and on which work will commence as soon as a few preliminary arrangements have been made.

MYSTIC.

Contractor Fred Turner and assistants are putting a new foundation under the L. P. Allen cottage at Willow point which was recently moved to line up with the Maxson cottages along the river front. Seabreeze, one of Silas Maxson's cottages, is also to have a new foundation and work will commence as soon as weather permits. Both carpenter and mason work has been interfered with lately by the cold.

GROTON.

The contract for the repairing of the burned house of Dr. Oliver Winslip on Slocum terrace was awarded yesterday to Marquard Brothers. They will put a gang of workmen at work there immediately and work will be hurried along as the doctor is anxious to be established at home as soon as possible.

PLAINFIELD.

Architect C. H. Preston of Norwich will attend a meeting to be held by the building committee of the new Plainfield schoolhouse here Saturday morning, at which time the plans of the building which he has made will be gone over and any proposed changes made.

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